

Comparing Characters: Julian's a Jerk

In this activity, you will compare the characters of Charlotte, Julian and Jack on p. 24-26 'The Grand Tour'. Reread p. 24-26.




Part A

In this section of the book, you might say that Charlotte is bossy, Julian is rude and Jack is impatient. *In pairs or groups of three, find and highlight sentences or sections that show each of these characteristics on pages 24-26. You'll need to use a different colour for each character/characteristic. The table below shows the first three examples:*

Charlotte's bossiness	Julian's rudeness	Jack's impatience
p. 24. Lines 10 & 21. Charlotte flat disagrees with Julian.	p. 24. Lines 5-6. Julian stands in front of the door so August can't go inside.	p. 24. Line 24. Jack pushes past Julian.

Then, choose at least one sentence/section per character, write it down and *explain why you think that sentence/section shows that characteristic.* (How does it show Charlotte is bossy/Julian is rude/Jack is impatient?)

For example: Charlotte says, "That's not true," to Julian. This shows that she's bossy because she comes straight out with it and contradicts him. She could have been more polite about it but she's probably the sort of person that wants to be right about everything.

Charlotte's bossiness	Julian's rudeness	Jack's impatience
		

Part B

In this activity, you will find evidence in the text that reveals Julian's character and explain why it does.

Reread p. 27-30 'The Performance Space'.

On page 30, Jack says, "Julian's a jerk". *In pairs, find at least four pieces of evidence (text) on pages 27-30 that prove Jack's point. For each piece of evidence, explain why it illustrates that "Julian's a jerk".*

Evidence in the text	How it illustrates that "Julian's a jerk"

Challenge Task

Julian's and Jack's reactions to August (and each other) change across this section of the book (p. 24-30). *Explain how each of their reactions develop and back up your ideas with evidence from the text.* If you want to work in pairs and take one character each, that's fine, but you must check with your partner regularly to ensure that they agree with your interpretation.

Comparing Characters: Julian's a Jerk **Answers**

Plan A

Example Answers:

Charlotte's bossiness	Julian's rudeness	Jack's impatience
<p>p. 24</p> <p>Lines 10 & 21. Charlotte flat disagrees with Julian.</p> <p>p.25</p> <p>Line 13. She says, "right?".</p> <p>Line 25-29. Charlotte begins to give a detailed explanation.</p> <p>p. 26</p> <p>Line 14. She decides where they're going to go next.</p>	<p>p. 24</p> <p>Lines 5-6. Julian stands in front of the door so August can't go inside.</p> <p>Line 10. He says "whatever".</p> <p>Lines 16-17. Julian didn't look at August while he was talking.</p> <p>Line 22. He contradicts/ shouts at Charlotte.</p> <p>p. 25</p> <p>Line 2. Julian moved out of August's way.</p> <p>Lines 5-8. He gives a sarcastic tour of the science room.</p> <p>p. 26</p> <p>Line 11. Julian ridicules August about Jack's name.</p>	<p>p. 24</p> <p>Line 24. Jack pushes past Julian.</p> <p>p. 25</p> <p>Line 16. He won't wait for August's answer.</p> <p>Line 30. Jack cuts Charlotte off.</p> <p>p. 26</p> <p>Line 1. He walks off without waiting.</p> <p>Line 4. Jack rolls his eyes at Charlotte.</p> <p>Line 13. He suggests they go now.</p>

Plan B

Example Answers:

Evidence in the text	How it illustrates that "Julian's a jerk"
p. 27. Julian looks at August out of the corner of his eye.	If Julian were being respectful, he'd look at August directly. He's looking out of the corner of his eye, probably because he's feeling uncomfortable about August's face and because he's curious, but it's not a polite way to look at someone.
p. 28. He is sarcastic to Charlotte about her suggested electives.	Charlotte is trying to be helpful and make constructive suggestions to August – they're supposed to be welcoming to the school. But all Julian can do is to rubbish what Charlotte is saying. It's insulting to Charlotte and August alike.
p. 29. Julian asks August blunt personal questions about his appearance.	Julian has just met August. It would be clear to anyone that August would be self-conscious about his face and not welcome aggressive questioning about it. It's the kind of question you'd ask after you've got to know someone a little and earned some trust.
p. 30. He cuts in front of August and makes him stumble	Julian deliberately cut into August's path to be nasty. He is annoyed that August had corrected him over the word 'supposedly'.

★ ★ ★
★ Challenge Task ★

Julian's and Jack's reactions to August (and each other) change across this section of the book (p. 24-30). Explain how each of their reactions develop and back up your ideas with evidence from the text. If you want to work in pairs and take one character each, that's fine, but you must check with your partner regularly to ensure that they agree with your interpretation.

At first, Jack is impatient at having to show August around – he didn't really want to do it in the first place (His first line to August is: "Hey, can you talk?"). As Julian becomes more rude to August, Jack takes August's side ("Just shut up") – he never liked Julian in the first place ("Julian's a jerk"). He deliberately seeks to make friends with August at the door (he looks directly at him and smiles). He gives August helpful advice at the end of the scene ("you're gonna have to talk"). So gradually, Jack comes to defend, like and support August through this section of the book.

At first, Julian seems impatient at having to show August around. Whereas Jack is mostly silent, Julian is aggressively impatient (he stands in front of the doors so that August can't get it, so that the tour will be over more quickly). He won't talk directly to August at first ("how would I know what he knows") and he's outright rude to him when August misunderstands Jack's name. He is rude to August when he assumes that he's not done "real science" before and he continues to be rude about August's mother, his hair and his face. He knows that August wasn't in a fire because Mr Tushman had told them but deliberately asks the question as an insult. Eventually, he turns to physical aggression when August annoys him by correcting him about "supposably". So gradually, Julian gets nastier as this section goes on and he comes to dislike August by the end of the passage.